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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018 JSOnline.com PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Factories win big tax breaks

Residents get stuck with the bill

Jonathan Anderson Green Bay Press-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

MANAWA – Larry Squires distinctly remembers how he felt when he got his annual property tax bill in the mail in December.

Taxes on his Manawa home went up nearly 14 percent, an increase of more than $260.

"I definitely wasn't happy about it," Squires said.

Neither were many of Manawa's roughly 1,300 residents, who haven't been shy in letting local officials know their displeasure with the tax hike, Mayor John Smith said.

A key reason residents' taxes went up: Property taxes on the largest employer in town, Sturm Foods, went down.

The company, which makes oatmeal, dried soups and other products, was able to reduce the assessed value of its facilities by nearly $10 million last year.

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Property taxes on Larry Squires' home in Manawa have increased 14 percent. WM. GLASHEEN/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Sales tax holiday bill looks dead

Senate unlikely to pass it; entire bill at impasse

Jason Stein Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

MADISON – A Wisconsin sales tax holiday appears all but dead in the state Senate and an impasse between GOP lawmakers is putting the entire tax cut bill at risk.

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) said GOP senators wouldn't even hold a hearing on a one-time sales tax holiday that passed the Assembly last week. Also Monday, Fitzgerald signaled that he likely had the votes in the Senate to shut down the state's troubled youth prison.

In an interview Monday, Fitzgerald called the $52 million sales tax holiday passed by Assembly Republicans a "gimmick" that would simply shift the timing of consumer purchases without actually boosting economic activity in the state.

"There's just not the votes for it," Fitzgerald said of the tax holiday. "I wouldn't vote for it."

Instead, the Senate Committee on Economic Development will consider a bill written by Fitzgerald that would drop the sales tax holiday but still include the $100 per child tax rebate pro-

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Trump again rips Fla. officers

'I really believe I'd run in there even if I didn't have a weapon,' he says

David Jackson
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – While urging governors to work with him on new school safety measures, President Donald Trump again attacked officers Monday for not entering a Florida high school building and somehow engaging a gunman who killed 17 people with a military-style rifle.

"I really believe I'd run in there even if I didn't have a weapon, and I think most of the people in this room would have done that, too," Trump told a group of state governors gathered at the White House for talks on multiple issues.

Trump singled out a sheriff's deputy assigned to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, and described the lack of action by him and others during the Feb. 14 shooting as "frankly disgusting." But he also said that "you don't know" how anyone

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Harley-Davidson gears up for 115th anniversary

Plans for Harley-Davidson's 115th anniversary in Milwaukee include drag racing. HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Motorcycles to take center stage over music

Rick Barrett Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

Harley-Davidson Inc.'s 115th anniversary bash in Milwaukee on Labor Day weekend will be more about the bikes and riding than big-stage concerts.

New venues, including motorcycle racing on Bradford Beach, will distinguish the 115th from Harley's previous anniversaries, which attracted hundreds of thousands of riders to Milwaukee from all over the world.

Some things you can expect:

- Lots of street parties across the city with live music, but no headline acts like Aerosmith or Bruce Springsteen.
- Motorcycle field games such as "slow races," T-ball, barrel rolls, plank rides and "weenie bites."
- A "moto-carnival" at Veterans Park with high-wire motorcycle thrill shows and the Wall of Death from the Full Throttle Saloon in Sturgis, S.D.
- Racing on Bradford Beach, where bikes will tear through the sand on the Lake Michigan shoreline.
- "Run What You Brung" drag racing and Flat Out Friday flat-track racing.

"This is an anniversary like no other we have thrown before. We really want to bring that thrill and adrenaline rush of motorcycling to the city," said Heather Malenshek, vice president of marketing for Milwaukee-based Harley-Davidson.

Riders slapped hands as they went past the parade watchers while making their way down Wisconsin Ave. during the Harley Davidson 110th Anniversary Parade on Aug. 31, 2013. MICHAEL SEARS / MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

> **"We are putting the motorcycle culture at the center of our strategy."**
>
> **Heather Malenshek**
> vice president of marketing

The 110th anniversary, in 2013, was noteworthy for Summerfest-stage concerts including Aerosmith, Kid Rock and Toby Keith.

Harley also had at least 50 acts playing side stages, including Joan Jett, Chance The Rapper and Chevy Metal, a cover band that had a surprise guest appearance by Foo Fighters' Dave Grohl.

Not this year, though, as Harley focuses on motorcycling instead of big-name bands.

"The 110th was great, but we were all kind of sequestered into Summerfest listening to music," Malenshek said.

"This anniversary is about getting people out riding, and watching some fun parts of motorcycle culture, and inviting some new folks in to sample it a bit," she added.

Harley says the changes are in response to feedback the company received from its previous anniversary parties in Milwaukee.

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Carjacker killed

A carjacker is shot to death by his intended victim in Milwaukee. **7A**

Will bark for beer

Nikki Collier's company makes dog treats from breweries' spent grain. **10A**

Weather

High 54° Low 37°
Partly cloudy. Forecast, **4C**

Volume 136 | Issue 104
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